

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 DRC-01 /112 W

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P R 220952Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5518

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CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 5523

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, KS

SUBJECT: NDP CONVENTION

SUMMARY: NDP CONVENTION OPENED AUGUST 22. AFTER SECOND BALLOT FIELD OF CONTENDERS HAD BEEN REDUCED TO TWO, KIM YONG-SAM AND KIM UI-TAEK. BY EARLY EVENING DECISION HAD NOT BEEN REACHED WHETHER TO CONTINUE BALLOTING INTO NIGHT OR RECESS UNTIL 23RD. END SUMMARY.

1. NDP CONVENTION OPENED ON SCHEDULE MORNING AUGUST 22. BEFORE VOTING FOR PARTY PRESIDENT DELEGATES LISTENED TO PARTY ACTIVITY REPORT FOR PREVIOUS YEAR, CHOSE ASSEMBLYMAN YI CHUNG-HWAN AS CONVENTION CHAIRMAN AND APPROVED NEW PARTY CONSTITUTION .

2. DURING DEBATE ON PARTY CONSTITUTION DR. CHONG IL-HYONG TOOK FLOOR TO PROTEST PARTY DECISION TO LIMIT VOTING TO FIVE REGISTERED CANDIDATES. CHONG SAID THAT THIS PROCEDURE WAS NOT REQUIRED BY PARTY CONSTITUTION AND WAS OBVIOUS MOVE TO BLOCK VOTES FOR KIM TAE-CHUNG. CHONG SAID THAT IF SUCH PARTY POLICIES CONTINUE AT A TIME WHEN
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BISHOP CHI AND FORMER NDP ASSEMBLYMEN REMAIN IN JAIL

HE MAY HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO LEAVE THE NDP. HE LABELED
PRESENT NDP RULES AS NDP "EMERGENCY MEASURES."
FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL PROTEST BY FORMER
ASSEMBLYMAN AND KIM TAE-CHUNG SUPPORTER KIM UNG-CHA,
DURING WHICH ONE PARTICIPANT WAS EJECTED FROM THE
STAGE, VOTING PROCEEDED AS SCHEDULED.

3. FIRST BALLOT WAS SPLIT AMONG FIVE CONTENDERS AS
FOLLOWS:

KIM YONG-SAM 197

KIM UI-TAEK 142

CHONG HAE-YONG 126

KO HUNG MUN 111

YI CHOL SUNG 107

THERE WERE 46 INVALID VOTES (ALL FOR KIM TAE-CHUNG) MAKING
A TOTAL OF 729.

4. KO HUNG-MUN THEN OFFICIALLY SWITCHED HIS SUPPORT TO
KIM YONG-SAM AND YI CHOL-SUNG WITHDREW IN FAVOR OF
KIM UI-TAEK. THOSE WHO HAD VOTED FOR KIM TAE-CHUNG
OFFERED SUPPORT TO KIM YONG-SAM ON CONDITION THAT HE
SIGN PLEDGE TO FIGHT FOR FREEDOM OF KIM TAE-CHUNG TO
LEAVE ROK, DISCLOSURE OF THE FULL TRUTH ABOUT KIM'S
ABDUCTION, AND FREEDOM FOR FORMER NDP ASSEMBLYMEN STILL
IN PRISON. KIM REPORTEDLY AGREED AND SIGNED PLEDGE.

5. SECOND BALLOT WENT AS FOLLOWS:

KIM YONG-SAM 342

KIM UI-TAEK 204

CHONG HAE-YONG 185

THERE WERE 11 INVALID VOTES FOR A TOTAL OF 723.
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SINCE NONE OF THE CANDIDATES RECEIVED THE NECESSARY 362
VOTES, A RUN-OFF BETWEEN KIM YONG-SAM AND KIM UI-TAEK IS
NOW SCHEDULED. AS OF 1800 HOURS DEBATE ON PROCEDURE CONTINUES
WITH SOME NDP DELEGATES ATTEMPTING TO POSTPONE RUN-OFF
UNTIL 23RD.
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Message Attributes

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